Restoration of Tanks in Shimoga District.

Q.—43. **Mr. J. SIVARUDRAPPA** (Honnali Taluk).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the number of major and minor tanks in the Shimoga District;

(*b*) of these, how many are restored and how many are unrestored (the yearwar programme chalked out for restoring these unrestored tanks may be intimated)?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Mr. N. Sarabhoja).**—

(*a*) Six hundred and six major and 7,419 minor tanks.

(*b*) Five hundred and sixty-three major and 539 minor tanks are restored to end of 1938-39. Forty three major and 6,880 minor tanks still remain to be restored (*vide* Triennial Programme of restoration of major and minor tanks issued with G.O. No. P.W 3512-37—S., dated 28th April 1939).

Mr. J. SIVARUDRAPPA.—Will not the non-restoration of as many as 6,880 minor tanks mean considerable hardship to thousands of raiyats?

Mr. N. SARABHOJA.—May be. But restoration works can be taken up only gradually according to a programme.

Mr. J. SIVARUDRAPPA.—Will it not be possible to include a larger number of minor tanks in the programme now prepared?

Mr. N. SARABHOJA.—We should only be too glad to do it, but it depends on the grant available.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR.—How long will it take to restore all of them?

Mr. N. SARABHOJA.—I cannot say.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—The provision made in the programme for restoration of minor tanks is very small and the number proposed to be restored works out at a very negligible percentage of the total number of tanks awaiting restoration. Why not therefore allot more money and restore a larger number of tanks in each year?

Mr. N. SARABHOJA.—We shall have to consider the possibilities.

Mr. K. L. NANJAPPA NADIG.—There are two tanks in Krishnarajpet Taluk known as Bechirak Bachahalli tank and Silanare tank. Though the raiyats have executed the necessary *mutchalikas* in respect of their restoration, these works have not been included in the triennial programme. May I know the reason?

Mr. N. SARABHOJA.—I shall find it out.

Holidays for Government Offices.

Q.—49. **Mr. A. MIDDLETON** (Special Interests).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the total number of full holidays enjoyed by the staff in Government offices per annum;

(*b*) the total number of partial holidays per annum;

(*c*) the total number of hours worked by the above staff per day?

A.—**The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. P. H. Krishna Rao).**—

(*a*) The total number of general holidays is 26 in addition to Sundays and Penultimate Saturdays.

(*b*) Mahomedan ... 9 days.
Christian ... 7 „
Hindu ... 5 „

(*c*) 6 hours.

Mr. A. MIDDLETON.—Has it come to notice that even though the Taluk and District Offices are supposed to open at 11 A. M. for work, barely any official turns up in time and treasury transactions do not actually begin before 12 NOON?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—No.

Mr. A. MIDDLETON.—On partial holidays, no offical will be available to facilitate transactions in the treasury. In the Kadur District sometimes, not knowing which are all partial holidays, we send moneys for remittance to the treasury, from very long distances, but the messengers come back saying that it is a partial holiday and the treasury is closed. May I suggest that on

partial holidays, some suitable arrangement be made for keeping the treasuries open?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—The suggestion will be considered.

Mr. A. MIDDLETON.—For how long have Penultimate Saturdays come to be treated as holidays?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—For the past 6 or 7 years.

Mr. A. MIDDLETON.—Compared to the number of holidays granted by business firms, Government holidays are too many. Why not cancel the holidays on Penultimate Saturdays so that Government work may go on unhampered?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—But at the time orders were passed, declaring Penultimate Saturdays as holidays, the number of other general and partial holidays was curtailed.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—What is the object of treating Penultimate Saturdays as holidays?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—To enable the officials to enjoy rest on two consecutive days in a month, as that would improve their efficiency.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Was any representation made that Penultimate Saturdays should be treated as holidays?

Mr. P H. KRISHNA RAO.—No. Other Governments have been giving holidays on Penultimate Saturdays and so we also did it.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—While declaring Penultimate Saturdays as holidays, was not the number of holidays for Hindus and Muslims curtailed?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Yes.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—In this Hindu State of Mysore, will not the curtailment of Hindu holidays inconvenience a majority of officials as well as the general public?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Government are not aware, that it is so.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Before Penultimate Saturdays were treated as holidays, what was the number of Hindu holidays?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Notice.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—During the Dasara week, many Hindus would like to recite the *Ramayana*. Are they not prevented from doing so if they have to attend office?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—That could be done in the mornings even now.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Even till late in the afternoon, they would do it if only time permits.

The FIRST MEMBER (Rajamantrapravina N. Madhava Rau).—Those who are very particular about it may take casual leave.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—The officials exhausting their leave during Dasara may not be able to attend to their own business on other days. There seems to be no need for a holiday on Penultimate Saturdays, particularly for Hindus. In spite of his being a Christian, Mr. Middleton has expressed that view.

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Penultimate Saturday has nothing to do with any religion.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—Will it not be possible to cancel the holidays on Penultimate Saturdays and increase the number of Hindu holidays?

Mr. J. ASWATHANARAYANA RAO.—What are the 5 partial holidays for Hindus?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—They are indicated in the Government calendar.

Mr. J. ASWATHANARAYANA RAO.—On certain important festival days like Anantha Chaturdasi, Varamahalakshmi Vratam, etc., Hindus are not getting holidays. Will the Government be pleased to declare such days as holidays?

The CHIEF SECRETARY (Rajasevaprasaktha B. T. Kesavaiengar).—But all Hindus do not observe the feasts you refer to. If anyone wants to observe them, he may take leave.

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—The list has been revised after due consideration.

Mr. S. RAMAPPA.—But lawyers, for example, cannot take leave, because the Judges will hold court on such days.

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Lawyers can finish their work at home before the court work begins.

Mr. Y. V. MUNISWAMI IYER.—Varamahalakshmi Vratam is a festivity for ladies and we need not make much of it. Anantha Chaturdasi also is not observed

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by all. But there is special religious significance attaching to Navaratri worship, which members of this Assembly have to give up, quite against their will, because the Assembly Session synchronises with that period. Will it not be feasible to hold the sittings of the Assembly after the Dasara festivities?

Mr. PRESIDENT.—From next year onwards we shall do so. There are also certain other difficulties which have since come to our notice.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH.—Are not the officers and others working under the University enjoying more holidays than other Government officials?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Yes, their vacation itself is long enough.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH.—Apart from the vacation, how many holidays do they enjoy?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—I want notice.

Mr. S. C. MALLIAH.—Because of the frequency of holidays in the institutions under the University, the students are not able to make much progress. Can the University not reduce the number of holidays?

The SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V Anantaraman).—That is one view. Another view is that students will have sufficient time to do adequate home work with a view to mastering all that they are taught in the colleges.

REPRESENTATIONS—*contd.*

No. 54.—Levy of education cess from all municipalities.

Mr. K. G. VEERAPPA GOWDA (Channagiri Taluk).

Mr. KHAJI SYED YUSUF SAHIB explained that for many years in Madras 25 per cent of municipal revenue was being recovered as contribution for educational purposes, whereas in Mysore, no education cess was levied from cities and more than 50 per cent of the existing cess revenue was being contributed by villagers. He therefore suggested the adoption of the Madras rule, *viz.*, of levying an education cess of 25 per cent on all municipal revenues so that the raiyat's burden might be lightened to some extent.

Mr. G. MALLANNA pointed out that education cess was being levied only in some municipalities, though all municipalities were deriving the full benefit of primary education. He therefore suggested that, as in the case of land revenue, education cess should be levied compulsorily on municipal revenue also. If this matter was left to the option of the municipalities, he was afraid that they would not enforce it.

Mr. H. KRISHNAMURTHY ACHAR explained that if the previous speaker's suggestion was accepted, it would mean a double levy as many of the residents in urban areas might be paying land tax as well as an education cess thereon. He therefore suggested that in all such cases, exemptions should be granted if at all the proposal under discussion was adopted.

The SECOND MEMBER (Mr. K. V. Anantaraman) observed that the question of levying an education cess on municipal taxes was under examination by Government.

Mr. SHER KHAN emphasized the fact that the residents of municipalities were enjoying the maximum benefit out of primary education. The major portion of the benefit of the taxes levied in the villages was accruing to people in municipal areas. It was therefore desirable that Government levied a percentage cess on all municipal revenues. Particularly in Shimoga, the education fund showed a deficit of Rs. 25,000, which could not be adjusted for want of other resources. He was of opinion that the finances of school boards could be improved only by insisting on the municipalities levying a cess towards the cost of primary education.

No. 55.—Introduction of industrial education in all the schools of the State.

Mr. B. MALLAPPA (Nelamangala Taluk).

Mr. B. MALLAPPA prayed that industrial education be introduced in all the schools of the State.

The PRESIDENT observed that this was mainly a question of funds and was